

5. (Amended) The device of claim 4 wherein said electrical signal is an AC voltage at a predetermined frequency.

6. (Amended) The device of claim 5 wherein the predetermined frequency is between about 1 Hz and about 1 Ghz.

7. (Amended) The device of claim 4 wherein said electrical signal is a DC voltage at a predetermined frequency.

Please cancel claims ~~24-32~~.

Please add claims 33, 34 and 35 as follows:

33. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein said constrictions are formed of an insulation material.

34. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein said constrictions are formed of a material having a dielectric constant substantially less than a buffer in which the particles to be trapped are suspended.

35. (New) The device of claim 1 wherein said constrictions are formed of silicon dioxide, polyimide, PMMA or an inert material.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 31, 2002 has been carefully considered. Claims 1 and 5-7 have been amended. Claims 24-32 directed to an unelected invention have been cancelled. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the unelected claims. Claims 33-35 have been added. Claims 1-23 and 33-35 are in this application.

Claims 5, 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as providing insufficient antecedent basis for a limitation in the claims. Claims 5-7 have been amended to obviate the Examiner's rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly recite the present invention. Claims 33-35 further define the present invention. Support for claim 33 is found throughout the specification and in particular on page 11, lines 10-13. Support for claim 34 is found throughout the specification and in particular on page 8, line 4 and page 13, line 16. Support for claim 35 is found throughout the specification and in particular on page